

Lead Agency:

Division of Child
Protective Services of
the Sacramento
County Department
of Health and Human
Services

**Geographic Area and
Congressional
District Served:**
Sacramento County;
Congressional
Districts 3,6,7,9

Federal Grant:
\$1.48 million/4 years

**Evaluation Design,
Comparison Group
Type and
Treatment Received:**
Quasi-experimental,
historical comparison
group

**Proposed Number
Served (4 years):**
Children: 1438
Adults: 575

Project Description

The Sacramento County Children Affected by Methamphetamine (CAM) Project (also known as *Children in Focus* or CIF) serves children and families participating in the Dependency Drug Court (DDC) or the Early Intervention Family Drug Court (EIFDC). The County of Sacramento Child Protective Services implements CIF to enhance services provided to children, giving them a voice in their parent's recovery process. The Project provides the following key service elements:

- ***Celebrating Families*** – a 16-week evidence-based interactive parenting program that helps families recover from the effects of substance abuse and child neglect; every family member from ages 4 through adulthood participate in structured educational groups and activities;
- ***Birth and Beyond Family Resource Centers (BBFRC)*** – provide comprehensive primary prevention and early intervention programs; support services are offered to families in eight community locations;
- ***Recovery Resource Specialists*** – link families to both community and faith-based services.

Target Population

Services are provided to children ages 0–17 years and their families participating in either the Dependency Drug Court (DDC) or the Early Intervention Family Drug Court (EIFDC). Sacramento County is located in the northern end of the California Central Valley, and is the state's 8th most populous county with a total population of 1,418,800.

Major Project Goals

- Provide an evidence-based, cognitive behavioral support group model specifically developed for families with substance abuse issues;
- Help children and youth affected by substance abuse break the cycle of intergenerational addiction;
- Effectively link families to community-based services to increase parent and children services and social supports thereby increasing child safety, permanency and well-being;
- Improve the collaborative capacity of County systems and staff to enhance the service array, increase access to services, and retention in treatment.

Partner Agencies and Organizations

The Sacramento CAM Project includes the following partners:

Child Welfare

- Sacramento County Child Protective Services

Substance Abuse

- Department of Health and Human Services Behavioral Health – Alcohol and Drug Services
- Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board
- Bridges/STARS Program

Courts

- Superior Court of California – County of Sacramento

Evaluation

- Children and Family Futures

Community-Based Supports

- Birth and Beyond Family Resource Centers

CAM Program Description

Children Affected by Methamphetamine is a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funded grant program focused on expanding and/or enhancing services to children and their families who are affected by methamphetamine use and abuse. The Public Health Service Act of 509 provided funding over a four-year period to 12 Family Treatment Drug Courts (FTDC) to improve the well-being, permanency, and safety outcomes of children, who are in, or at-risk of out-of-home placement as a result of parental methamphetamine or other substance abuse.

Performance Indicators

CAM grantees are measuring their performance on outcomes for children, adults and families. **The Sacramento County CAM Project** bi-annually provides data on the following 18 performance indicators.

Child/Youth Indicators

- Children remain at home
- Occurrence of child maltreatment
- Average length of stay in foster care
- Re-entries to foster care placement
- Timeliness of reunification
- Timeliness of permanency
- Prevention of substance-exposed newborn
- Connection to supportive services
- Improved child well-being

Adult Indicators

- Access to substance abuse treatment
- Retention in treatment
- Substance use
- Connection to supportive services
- Employment
- Criminal behavior

Family/Relationship Indicators

- Improved parenting
- Family relationships and functioning
- Risk and protective factors

Contact Information

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Department of Health and Human Services Behavioral Health – Alcohol and Drug Services

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